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Disaster News



INDIANA RESIDENTS: ONE WEEK REMAINS TO REGISTER FOR ASSISTANCE

INDIANAPOLIS – One week remains for Indiana residents affected by recent severe storms and flooding to register for federal disaster assistance. **Monday, Nov. 24, is the deadline to register with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).**

“Time is running out,” said Regis Phelan, FEMA’s head of Indiana recovery operations. “Register with FEMA today. You may be eligible for valuable disaster assistance, but you won’t know until you register.”

Residents can register online at www.fema.gov. They also register by calling FEMA at **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)**, or at **TTY 1-800-462-7585** for those with speech or hearing impairments. Lines are open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Residents can also check the status of applications and update contact information through the same numbers.

FEMA Individual Assistance includes grants to help pay for temporary housing, home repairs and other serious disaster-related expenses such as medical care and damage to personal property. Residents in 30 counties are eligible for Individual Assistance programs related to the severe storms and flooding of Sept. 12 through Oct. 6. With ten added to the disaster declaration Nov. 5, the roster of counties now includes: **Clark, Crawford, Dearborn, Floyd, Franklin, Gibson, Harrison, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Jennings, Knox, Lake, LaPorte, Lawrence, Martin, Ohio, Orange, Perry, Pike, Porter, Posey, Ripley, Scott, Spencer, St. Joseph, Switzerland, Vanderburgh, Warrick, and Washington.**

In addition to FEMA assistance, low-interest disaster loans are available from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) for homeowners, renters, businesses and certain non-profit organizations. **Residents who receive an SBA disaster loan application in the mail after applying with FEMA should be sure to complete the application**, even if they aren’t sure they want a loan. Completing the SBA application is an important step in being considered for FEMA’s Other Needs Assistance program, which covers personal property, vehicle repair or replacement, and moving and storage expenses.

FEMA coordinates the federal government's role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters, whether natural or man-made, including acts of terror.

Individuals do not need to apply for an SBA loan before they can receive FEMA's temporary housing assistance, which includes rental assistance, home repair and replacement funds, as well as grants for public transportation expenses, medical and dental expenses, and funeral and burial expenses. However, an applicant must complete an SBA loan application to be eligible for FEMA assistance that covers personal property, vehicle repair or replacement, and moving and storage expenses.

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Editors: For more information on Indiana disaster recovery, visit www.fema.gov or www.in.gov/dhs.

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